

**Cracks in Floors.**  
To stop cracks in floors putty is not necessary. A cheap and effective substitute for it is made by soaking newspaper in a paste made by boiling a pound of flour in three quarts of water and adding a teaspoonful of powdered alum. This mixture should be about the consistency of putty and should be forced between the boards with a blunt knife. When the compound has dried it can be painted to match the boards and if the cracks have been neatly filled up they will hardly be perceptible.

**Water on Our Globe.**  
The land surface of the globe covers 52,000,000 square miles and the water surface 144,700,000. Taking the average pore space of the surface rocks occupied by moisture at ten per cent, S. Slichter, of the United States Geological Survey, estimates the amount of ground water, which reaches a depth of six miles, at 565,000 million million cubic yards. This is thought to be about one-third the amount of oceanic water, and would cover the globe to a depth of 3,000 or 3,500 feet.

**Everyone is Affected.**  
When a Chinese emperor dies, the intelligence is announced by diptaches to the several provinces, written with purple ink, the mourning color. All persons of rank are required to take red silk ornaments from their caps with the ball or button of rank; all subjects of China, without exception, are called upon to forbear shaving their heads for 100 days, within which period none are allowed to marry, play upon musical instruments, or perform any sacrifice.

**Professional Athletics.**  
The London Lancet says that athletics in England have developed too much into gladiatorial displays by picked competitors struggling to win prizes or to earn wages before huge crowds of spectators, and can hardly be regarded as effective agents in the development of the physical strength and physical activity of the people.

**Silver Ornaments.**  
Silver ornaments should never be kept in wadding, which only tends to tarnish them. Wrap each article up in tissue paper, and any tarnish is removed by damping a piece of tissue and rubbing the tarnished part, drying it with a clean piece of tissue. It is also effective in cleaning gold jewelry.

**Monument to a Duel.**  
Many as are the places in England which have been the scenes of duels, only one is marked. This is a part of all that now remains of Cavendon Heath, in Norfolk, on which stands a small pillar to Sir Henry Hobart, Bart., who was killed on the spot in a duel with swords.—The Car.

**Little Johnny Knew.**  
Teacher—Johnny, write on the blackboard the sentence, "Two heads are better than one." Now, Johnny, do you believe that?  
Johnny—Yes'm. 'Cause then you kin get a job in a dime museum and make lots o' money.—Philadelphia Press

**Spots on Silk.**  
To remove rain spots from your silk dress, iron on the wrong side with a moderately hot iron. A piece of muslin laid over the silk as it is ironed will prevent any possibility of its acquiring a shiny look.

**Get Discouraged.**  
"Some men," said Uncle Eben, "talks so much 'bout whut dey's gwine to do dat dey gits discouraged over de 'mount of work dey's piled up ahead of 'em an' don' do nuffin'."—Washington Star.

**Mixed.**  
"What is that old adage about 'Truth crushed to earth'?"  
"Let me see. I think it's 'Truth crushed to earth lies at the bottom of a well.'"—Philadelphia Ledger

**Nutrition in Oysters.**  
A quart of oysters contains about the same amount of nutrition as a quart of milk, three-quarters of a pound of lean beef, two pounds of fresh cod or a pound of bread.

**Remarkable Statue.**  
Only one marble statue of the human figure with eyelashes is known. It is the "Sleeping Ariadne," one of the gems of the vatican, and it was found in 1503.

**The Piano.**  
Bartolommeo Cristofelli, of Padua, Italy, invented the piano about 1711; the upright piano was introduced by Roller & Blanchet, a French firm.

**To Make Invalids' Tea.**  
Make tea for an invalid with boiling milk instead of boiling water. It is much nicer and much more digestible if the milk really boils.

**Penalties of Wealth.**  
Wealth has its penalties. You never hear of a poor man spending his money for dyspepsia tablets.—Chicago Daily News.

**Interesting.**  
Some lies are so interesting that it is a pity to spoil them by investigation.—Washington (Ia.) Democrat.

**Books for Prisoners.**  
The Berlin city prison has a library of 8,000 volumes on educational, scientific and other subjects.

**Pimples and Diet.**  
Pimples are caused by an improper diet and can be cured by correcting the habits.

**Query.**  
If money talks, does it necessarily follow that \$ is a figure of speech?—N. Y. Sun.

**Attention Farmers.**

Why remain in the North and stay in doors six months in the year consuming what you raise during the other six months?

Go south where you can work out doors every month in the year, and where you are producing something the year round. If you are a stock raiser you know your stock are now "eating their heads off" and, besides, have to be protected from the rigors of winter by expensive shelter.

Economical stock feeding requires the combination of both flesh-forming and fat-forming foods in certain proportions. Alabama and Florida produce in abundance the velvet bean and cassava, the first a flesh producer, and the latter a fat producer, and they are the cheapest and best fattening materials known to the world.

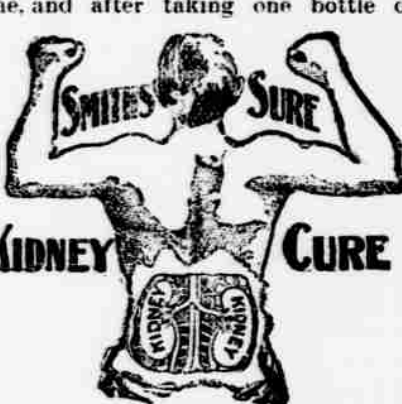
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I have suffered several years with backache, and after taking one bottle of



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**Hats Off.**

"You must take off your hat to the lightning in the South American town of Quito, unless you want to be guilty of very bad form," states a traveler. "There the lightning is deeply respected. Everyone removes his hat when it flashes, no matter if rain is falling; and when the streets are busy and lightning is abundant, a grotesque effect is produced by these salutations, which seem to be regarded as a duty by all well-behaved persons."

**In the Rand Mines.**

Sir Godfrey Langdon, South African commissioner for native affairs, recently stated before the legislative council that the native miners on the Rand were "as comfortable and well looked after as the miners in Cumberland or in any part of England." Sir George Farrar, commissioner for native affairs in the Transvaal reports to the legislative council that the native mortality in the Rand mines from November, 1902, to July, 1903, was 70.6 per 1,000.

**Muscle and Long Hair.**

I from time to time have some amusing questions propounded to me by readers of Truth, but the inquiry: "Who was the first musician to wear long hair?" seems a floorer. Personally, I should say it was Tubal Cain; but I am free to admit that this is mere surmise, based upon some fleeting idea that the profession of the barber had not at that early period of the world's history been instituted.—London Truth.

**Ambassador and Horse Trainer.**

Some of the ambassadors have a very easy time in Bangkok and appear to have strange ideas about their duties. The representative of one of the five great powers has taken to training horses for the local nobles, and as his clientele is increasing at the expense of the local professional trainers, considerable feeling is being engendered.—Commercial Intelligence.

**Resources of Russia.**

The natural resources of Russia are immense. The 6th basin of the Donetz, extending 16,575 miles, is one of the greatest in the world. The petroleum of Pennsylvania will be exhausted long before that of the Caucasus. The Russian production of petroleum was 8,125,200 tons, while in America it was only 4,157,880 tons.

**Radium and Electricity.**

Radium constantly generates heat, and Wien has now shown that it may constantly generate electricity. It gives off both positive and negative electrons, and the former—several hundred times as large as the latter—may be held back by a sieve of glass or any other of a variety of substances.

**German Suburban Homes.**

The suburban dwelling house standing apart with large yard and garden is a modern innovation in many parts of Germany. A half dozen years ago Mannheim had scarcely a single one. To-day it has dozens of them, costing from \$10,000 to \$25,000 each.

**Hard and Easy.**

"I should think Skinner would be on his good behavior occasionally. He's certainly got a hard reputation to live down."

"Yes, but an easy one to live down to." Philadelphia Press.

**Two Western Ports.**

Portland, Ore., during the 12 months ended December last exported 5,614,719 bushels of wheat, as compared with 4,428,112 bushels from San Francisco and 4,597,780 bushels from Puget Sound.

**Ink Stains on Books.**

To remove ink stains from the leaves of a book, damp them with a little oxalic acid or tartaric acid, diluted with water. This will destroy the stains without injuring the print.

**Polyglot Student.**

There is at the present time a student at the University of Leyden, Holland, who, in addition to his own tongue, speaks and writes no fewer than 13 languages.

**To Prevent Rust.**

If steel grates, fire irons, knives, etc. be lightly rubbed over with vaseline, they may be left without fear of rust during summer holidays or any length of time.

**The Horse and His Food.**

The horse, when grazing, is guided entirely by the nostrils in the choice of proper food, and blind horses are never known to make mistakes in their diet.

**To Seed Raisins.**

Before beginning to seed raisins cover them with hot water and let them stand 15 minutes. The seeds can then be removed easily.

**Getting Over It.**

Uncle Boffin says that his servant has two holidays a week. The first is her day off, and the next her "off day."—Ally Sloper.

**On Its Rounds.**

"Sixth lap," groaned the Little Darling, as his fond mamma passed him round the sewing circle.—Harvard Lampoon.

**Should Know When to Quit.**

The trouble with too many people is, they do not quit when they are done.—Washington (Ia.) Democrat.

**Corean Paper.**

Corean paper is so strong and dense that it can be used to cover umbrellas.

**The Self-Styled Idiot.**

Any man who calls himself an idiot wants others to question his veracity.

**Asking for Advice.**

Men ask for advice when they seek approval.—Sam's Morn.

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